

House File 2372 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2372
BY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 625)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act concerning county supervisor districting plans.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68B.32A, subsection 16, Code 2018, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 16. Establish an expedited procedure for reviewing
4 complaints forwarded by the state commissioner of elections
5 to the board for a determination as to whether a supervisor
6 district plan adopted pursuant to section 331.210A that differs
7 from a supervisor district plan prepared by the legislative
8 services agency was drawn for improper political reasons
9 as described in section 42.4, subsection 5. The expedited
10 procedure shall be substantially similar to the process used
11 for other complaints filed with the board except that the
12 provisions of section 68B.32D shall not apply.

13 Sec. 2. Section 331.209, subsection 4, Code 2018, is amended
14 to read as follows:

15 4. Each temporary county redistricting commission shall
16 notify the state commissioner of elections when the boundaries
17 of supervisor districts are changed, shall provide a map
18 delineating the new boundary lines, and shall certify to
19 the state commissioner of elections the populations of the
20 new supervisor districts as determined under the latest
21 federal decennial census. Upon failure of a temporary county
22 redistricting commission to make the required changes by
23 the dates specified by this section and sections 331.203
24 and 331.204 as determined by the state commissioner of
25 elections, the state commissioner of elections shall make or
26 cause to be made the necessary changes as soon as possible,
27 and shall assess to the county the expenses incurred in so
28 doing. The Except for a representation plan drawn pursuant
29 to section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph "f", the state
30 commissioner of elections may request the services of personnel
31 and materials available to the legislative services agency
32 to assist the state commissioner in making required changes
33 in supervisor district boundaries which become the state
34 commissioner's responsibility.

35 Sec. 3. Section 331.210A, subsection 2, paragraph f,

1 subparagraph (1), Code 2018, is amended to read as follows:

2 (1) (a) ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of this section~~
 3 ~~to the contrary, for~~ For purposes of this paragraph "f",
 4 "qualifying county" means a county with a population of one
 5 hundred fifty thousand or more based on the most recent federal
 6 decennial census that elects supervisors under plan "three"
 7 as defined in section 331.206, or a county with a population
 8 of one hundred eighty thousand or more that has adopted a
 9 charter for a city-county consolidated form of government or
 10 a community commonwealth form of government and which charter
 11 provides for representation by districts.

12 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the
 13 contrary, for a qualifying county, the legislative services
 14 agency, and not the temporary county redistricting commission,
 15 shall draw a representation plan as provided by paragraph "a"
 16 pursuant to a contract executed with the county.

17 (c) A county subject to the requirements of this paragraph
 18 "f" shall notify the state commissioner of elections that a
 19 representation plan to be drawn pursuant to this paragraph
 20 "f" is required and shall submit to the state commissioner
 21 of elections the precinct plan to be used to draw the
 22 representation plan. Upon notification and submission of a
 23 precinct plan, the state commissioner of elections shall review
 24 and approve the precinct plan to be used. Following approval
 25 of the precinct plan to be used, the state commissioner
 26 of elections shall notify the legislative council which
 27 shall direct the legislative services agency to prepare a
 28 representation plan for the county.

29 (d) The plan drawn by the legislative services agency
 30 shall be based upon the precinct plan adopted and approved
 31 for use by the county and shall be drawn in accordance with
 32 section 42.4, to the extent applicable. After the legislative
 33 services agency has drawn the plan, the legislative services
 34 agency shall at the earliest feasible time make available to
 35 the public all of the information required to be made public

1 by paragraph "b".

2

EXPLANATION

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 This bill concerns county supervisor districting plans for
6 certain counties.

7 Code section 331.210A(2)(f) is amended to provide that the
8 procedure for adopting a representation plan for a county that
9 has a population that exceeds 180,000 or that has adopted a
10 charter for a city-county consolidation form or community
11 commonwealth form that provides for representation by districts
12 shall also apply to a county with a population of 150,000 or
13 more that has adopted a plan "three" form of representation.
14 The procedure provides that the county's initial plan for
15 districts, and the county's first plan for districts after each
16 federal decennial census, shall be drawn by the legislative
17 services agency based upon an approved precinct plan for
18 the county and the standards applicable to congressional
19 and legislative redistricting. If the plan drawn by the
20 legislative services agency is rejected by the governing body,
21 the governing body shall direct the legislative services agency
22 to prepare another plan as provided by current law.

23 Code section 68B.32A, concerning complaints for improper
24 political reasons relative to an adopted supervisor district
25 plan, is amended to make the complaint process inapplicable
26 to plans prepared by the legislative services agency. In
27 addition, Code section 331.209 is amended to provide that
28 the state commissioner of elections shall not be permitted
29 to request assistance from the legislative services agency
30 relating to a representation plan drawn pursuant to Code
31 section 331.210A(2)(f).